

# Summer Reading Tips for Parents

Efforts should be made during the summer to help your child sustain reading skills, practice reading, and read for enjoyment.

Parents should remember that children need free time in the summer to relax and enjoy the pleasures of childhood. So summer reading should be fun.

Try these tips to make reading enjoyable for your children this summer.



## Read aloud together with your child every day.

Make it fun by reading outdoors on the front steps or patio, at the park, or even the beach. Also, let your children read to you. For younger children, point out the relationship between words and sounds.

## Set a good example!

Parents must be willing to model behavior for their children. Keep lots of reading material around the house. Turn off the TV and have each person read his or her book, including mom and dad.

## Read the same book your child is reading and discuss it.

This is the way to develop habits of the mind and build capacity for thought and insight. Use this as your "special" time together.

## Buy books on tape.

Listen to the tapes in the car, or turn off the TV, and have the family listen to the story or a chapter together.

## Take your children to the library regularly.

The Genoa City and Lake Geneva Public Libraries sponsor summer reading events. Star Center has a Summer Reading Log-in to record minutes reading over the summer months. Make sure you sign your child up for his or her own library card, and use it often!

## Let kids choose what they want to read, and don't turn your nose up at popular fiction.

Passing negative judgment will only discourage the reading habit. Periodicals, magazines, newspapers, newsletters, graphic novels, and even comics give your child important reading practice.

## Make trips a way to encourage reading by reading aloud traffic signs, billboards, or other information.

Also show your children how to read a road map or atlas. Once you are on the road, let them take turns being the navigator.

## Encourage your child to create a summer scrapbook.

Attach souvenirs of your family's summer activities, postcards, ticket stubs, photos, or even hand-drawn pictures. Have your children write the captions, and read them aloud as you look at the book together.



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